First Reading: September 18th

Second Reading: September 25th

Pass: YES

Fail:

Other:

Resolution 3-18-F. Resolution to Support the initiative for HRL to provide a recycling bag in their dorm room when students move in

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to support an initiative to require HRL to provide a recycling bag in their dorm room when students move in.

WHEREAS: RA’s currently place trash bags in the dorm rooms prior to students moving in. For the past 3 years, WKU Resource Conservation has requested they also place a green bag in the room, but it has not resulted in any behavioral change.

WHEREAS: HRL as Sustainability listed under the resources for current and incoming students on their website. On this page they have “Lighten your Load” listed, a link to track energy use in the building, and one program that is no longer active. Although these are good initiatives, they are highly outdated. It would be beneficial to the department to grow in this area by making new sustainability efforts.

WHEREAS: RA’s are already entering the rooms prior to move in to assess room damages and line the trash can with a trash bag.

WHEREAS: WKU has a commitment to sustainability, but by only lining the trash can prior to move-in we are communicating to incoming students that we are not truly committed.

WHEREAS: WKU pays per-pound of trash, so incentivizing recycling is one way to maximize university funds.

WHEREAS: WKUs recycling company, Westrock, is committed to selling to local downstream vendors (aka within Kentucky and surrounding states). By recycling, we are able to supply raw materials to domestic businesses and strengthen economy in this area of the country - all while reducing landfill waste.

WHEREAS: The HRL mission is to “provide a premier living/learning experience that promotes student success” through partnerships with the university community. By partnering with WKU Resource Conservation to improve recycling resources, HRL could stay true to this mission.

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky

University support the sustainable initiative of placing recycling bags in students’ rooms upon

move in.

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SPONSOR: Sustainability Committee

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